

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takashi Yamaguchi et al.  
Confirmation No: 4930  
Serial No. : 09/691,435  
Filed : October 18, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 3713  
Examiner :

Docket No. : 00-631  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the prior art listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed, which prior art was cited in the corresponding Japanese application.

(1) Japanese Laid-Open patent Publication No. 26-4874.

This patent is attached hereto along with an English translation.

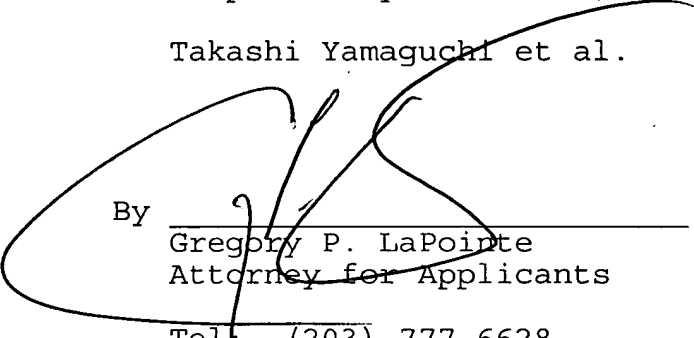
The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in the corresponding Japanese application in an office action dated January 27, 2004.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi Yamaguchi et al.

By

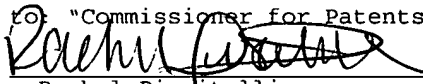
  
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Gregory P. LaPointe  
Attorney for Applicants

Tel: (203) 777-6628

Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: March 1, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on March 1, 2004.

  
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Rachel Piscitelli

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/691,435
Filing Date	October 18, 2000
First Named Inventor	Takashi Yamaguchi et al.
Group Art Unit	3714
Examiner Name	S. L. Ashburn
Attorney Docket Number	00-631

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner  
Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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